

## Message Text

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43

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07

LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 AID-05 /047 W

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R 301122Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4690

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PLAB, FR

SUBJECT: REPORTED ARREST OF TRADE UNION MILITANTS IN  
SPAIN

1. ANDRE HENRI, SECGEN OF FEN (FEDERATION D'EDUCATION NATIONALE), WANTED AMEMBASSIES PARIS AND MADRID TO KNOW OF THE TWO MOST RECENT INSTANCES OF TRADE UNION REPRESSION IN SPAIN. THESE INVOLVED THE ARREST ON 24 OCTOBER OF ROSE RODRIQUES DE LA BORDOLLA, PROFESSOR OF LABOR LAW IN SEVILLE UNIVERSITY, AND ROSE MARIA REREZ OROZCO, SCHOOL TEACHER, ALSO IN SEVILLE.

2. ACCORDING TO HENRI'S INFORMATION THE TWO SPANIARDS WERE ARRESTED BECAUSE OF THEIR VISIT TO PARIS IN MID-OCTOBER TO DISCUSS WITH FEN THE PREPARATION OF A SEMINAR ON PEDAGOGY TO BE HELD NEXT SPRING IN PAU, FRANCE. THIS WOULD HAVE BEEN A FOLLOWUP ACTION ON A SEMINAR HELD ALSO IN PAU LAST JUNE IN WHICH SOME 25 SPANISH TEACHERS, MILITANTS OF THE SPANISH CLANDESTINE FEN HAD PARTICIPATED.

3. HENRI TOLD LABATT ON 27 OCTOBER THAT HE HAD CONTACTED THE SAME DAY BOTH ELYSEE AND MATIGNON TO  
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REQUEST THAT AN EFFORT BE MADE BY GOF TO OBTAIN THE

RELEASE OF THE TWO PRISONERS. HENRI WAS PLEASED TO REPORT THAT THE PRESIDENT'S AND THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE WERE RECEPTIVE, PROMISED TO DO EVERYTHING THEY COULD UNDER THE STRICT CONDITION, HOWEVER, THAT THERE BE NO PRESS REPORTS ON THESE TWO CASES SO AS TO ALLOW DISCREET DIPLOMACY TO DO ITS WORK. HENRI PROMISED TO OBSERVE THIS CONDITION AND REQUESTED THEREFORE THAT FOREGOING BE HANDLED DISCREETLY. HE DID ADD, HOWEVER, THAT SHOULD AN APPROPRIATE OPPORTUNITY PRESENT ITSELF IN MADRID, THE AMERICAN LABOR ATTACHE MIGHT CONSIDER MENTIONING THE FOREGOING IN THE HOPE THAT THE SPANISH AUTHORITIES WOULD FEEL THE NEED TO REVIEW FAVORABLY THE CASE OF THE TWO PRISONERS.

4. LABATT ASSURED HENRI THAT HIS INFORMATION WOULD BE REPORTED TO BOTH WASHINGTON AND MADRID, BUT CAUTIONED HIM NOT TO EXPECT THAT THIS IS A MATTER IN WHICH THE AMERICAN EMBASSY IN MADRID COULD INTERVENE MUCH AS IT MIGHT SYMPATHIZE WITH THE TWO PRISONERS, ESPECIALLY IF THE CIRCUMSTANCES WHICH LED TO THEIR ARREST ARE AS HAVE BEEN REPORTED TO HENRI HIMSELF.  
RUSH

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
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**Draft Date:** 30 OCT 1975  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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